

Message Text

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ORIGIN OTPE-00

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 274220

HOLD FOR OPENING OF BUSINESS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, US, NATO

SUBJECT: CEP: CIVIL COMMUNICATIONS PLANNING
COMMITTEE (CCPC) WORKING GROUP MEETING, NOVEMBER 17-
18, 1977

REFS: (A) AC/121-D/604 (B) A-383, 31 OCT 77
(C) USNATO 11072, 081812Z NOV 77

1. THIS MESSAGE PROVIDES GUIDANCE REQUESTED
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BY REF A AS REGARDS THE WARTIME USE OF PRIVATELY-
OWNED TELECOMMUNICATIONS IN NATO COUNTRIES.

2. THE MAJOR CONCERN WITH AC/121-D/604 LIES IN THE
AGREEMENTS CONTAINED IN SUBPARAS 5A, B AND C OF
ANNEX C AND SUBPARAS 5A, B AND C OF ANNEX D. THE
USG HAS NO AUTHORITY TO IMPLEMENT THESE AGREEMENTS,

WHICH WOULD REQUIRE THE ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES BELONGING TO THE PRIVATELY OWNED TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS WHICH SERVE THE UNITED STATES. HOWEVER, THE USG DID NOT WISH TO INSIST ON A CHANGE IN WORDING WHICH WOULD SEVERELY DEGRADE THE STRENGTH OF THE DOCUMENT. THEREFORE, THE US REPRESENTATIVE TO THE

CCPC WAS AUTHORIZED TO ACCEPT THE PRESENT WORDING OF AC/121-D/604 IF THE DECISION SHEET OF THE LAST CCPC MEETING CONTAINED THE FOLLOWING COMMENT: QUOTE MEMBER NATIONS MUST RECOGNIZE THAT EXECUTION OF THE AGREED PLANS (CONTAINED IN AC/121-D/604) BY THE UNITED STATES CAN BE ACHIEVED ONLY THROUGH THE COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE OF PRIVATELY OWNED TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORPORATIONS. THE DEGREE TO WHICH THIS MAY CONSTRAIN FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLANS CANNOT BE DETERMINED AT THIS TIME. UNQUOTE IT IS NOTED THAT THE CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE (MC KAY) HELD A SIMILAR VIEW.

3. AS INDICATED AT THE OCTOBER 24-26 CCPC MEETING, THE USG CAN ACCEPT THE PRESENT WORDING OF THE AGREEMENTS CONTAINED IN AC/121-D/604, AS LONG AS THE RECORD OF CCPC TRANSACTIONS ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE USG CANNOT IMPLEMENT THESE AGREEMENTS DIRECTLY, BUT MUST WORK THROUGH PRIVATELY-OWNED

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TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORPORATIONS. THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT MAY BE EITHER IN THE FORM OF A DECISION SHEET COMMENT SIMILAR TO THAT QUOTED IN PARA 2 ABOVE, OR AS A FOOTNOTE TO AC/121-D/604 WHICH COULD NOT COMMIT US TO ACTIONS IN AREAS WHERE WE HAVE NO AUTHORITY (E.G., THE NOMINATION OF INTERNATIONAL CIRCUITS FOR USE IN THE LAST RESORT NETWORK).

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